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Cc:  
Bcc:  
From: Karma Lively  
Subject: TANZANIA-POLITICS: Calls  
Date: Friday, February 24, 1995 at 11:02:00 am  
Attach:  
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RELEASED IN FULL

\*\* SUBJECT: TANZANIA-POLITICS: Calls for Annexation of Burundi, Rwanda

Forwarded to: reginat  
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Comments by: Karma Lively@FHA.OFDA@AIDW  
Comments:

More from Rwandanet....

[Original Message]

Hello Everybody,

I have just received this message, and I thought I should share it with you. The rumblings reported here in the Tanzanian Parliament are very unusual. For the forty years or so that my country has hosted great numbers of refugees from many countries, including Rwanda and Burundi, I do not remember there having been such a debate in our Parliament. This signals growing exasperation with the problem in Rwanda and Burundi. The person mentioned in the last paragraph, Professor Joseph Mbwiliza, represents one of the Tanzanian regions bordering Rwanda and Burundi.

Joseph L. Mbele  
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>  
> D. by Paul Chintowa  
> D  
> DDAR ES SALAAM, Feb 23 (IPS) - Calls by Tanzanian  
> Dparliamentarians for their government to annexe Rwanda and  
> DBurundi in o  
> Dorder to end the crises there have drawn heated reactions from  
> Drepresentatives of the two countries.  
> D  
> D "An independent parliamentary team should be formed to see  
> Dhow the two countries should be part of Tanzania," said  
> Dparliamentarian Tuntemeke Sanga, whose call was echoed by other  
> Dlegislators now meeting in the central Tanzanian town o  
> Df Dodoma.  
> D  
> D "The countries were part of Tanzania, why shouldn't we have  
> Dthem now? A referendum should be made to see if the peop  
> Dle of Burundi and Rwanda want to be part of Tanzania," Sanga

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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> P  
> P From 1884 to 1914, Rwanda and Burundi were part of German  
> P East Africa, which further included Tanganyika, the mainlan  
> P d part of Tanzania.  
> P  
> P The calls appear to be motivated by exasperation at the  
> P apparent inability of political forces in the two countries t  
> P o bring peace to their troubled nations.  
> P  
> P Close to a million Rwandans are said to have died between  
> P April and July last in massacres that ended only when the R  
> P wanda Patriotic Front (RPF) defeated forces loyal to the then  
> P government.  
> P  
> P Most of the victims were members of Rwanda's Tutsi minority  
> P butchered by the 'interahamwe,' a militia made up of the  
> P majority Hutu.  
> P  
> P The war and massacres displaced four million people. Many who  
> P fled to neighbouring countries, mainly Tanzania and Zai  
> P re, have refused to return, partly through fear, partly because  
> P they have been prevented from doing so by the interahamw  
> P e.  
> P  
> P Burundi has been in turmoil ever since October 1993, when  
> P then President Melchior Ndadaye was killed in an aborted mi  
> P litary coup. Over the past week, some 20,000 Burundians fled to  
> P Tanzania for fear that the political and security situat  
> P ion there might worsen.  
> P  
> P Tanzania hosts nearly 800,000 refugees from Burundi and  
> P Rwanda. Tanzanian parliamentarian Sebastian Kinyondo said his  
> P country ''is unable to continue assisting these people.  
> P  
> P ''These countries are not civilised,'' he charged, adding:  
> P ''The only thing is to take them as ours. They should be r  
> P uled by countries like Tanzania that are able to do so.'' 

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> P  
> P Joining the debate, a senior administrator suggested  
> P annexation by force.  
> P  
> P ''We have to tell them now: if they don't want to reform,  
> P Tanzania should take immediate military steps,'' said Ahmed  
> P Kiwanuka, a provincial commissioner in Arusha, northern  
> P Tanzania.  
> P  
> P ''If all fails, the government should review the 1883/84  
> P Berlin Treaty at which Whites divided Africa, where Tangany  
> P ka, Burundi and Rwanda were one country,'' Kiwanuka said.  
> P  
> P The calls drew sharp criticism from officials of the two  
> P countries.  
> P  
> P ''Why do they (parliamentarians) demand something which is  
> P impossible,'' said a senior official of the Burundi embass  
> P y in Dar es Salaam who preferred to remain anonymous. ''It's a  
> P pity for Tanzanian MPs (parliamentarians) to demand that  
> P our countries become theirs.'' 

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> P  
> P A representative of the Rwandan government said the

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> pparliamentarians' calls ''were baseless and barbaric.''  
> p  
> p ''How can one demand that Rwanda should be part of Tanzania.  
> pThis is against the United Nations and Organisation of A  
> pffrican Unity charters,'' he said.  
> p  
> p Earlier this week, Tanzanian minister of state for defence,  
> pAbdulrahaman Kinana warned the two countries that they sh  
> pould ''behave'' or face stern measures from Dar es Salaam.  
> p  
> p ''You must make sure ethnic fighting ends,'' Kinana said,  
> pwithout going into details.  
> p  
> p He was supported by Joseph Mbwiliza, deputy minister for  
> pwater, energy and minerals who said his government would do  
> pwhatever it could to ensure that peace returns to its two  
> pneighbours. (end/ips/pc/kb/95)  
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